

May 3, 2000

in the financial success of the businesses they have had in shaping.

There are secretaries and other hourly wage workers in my Congressional District who have become millionaires because of the success of their stock option plans. This wouldn't have happened if their option plan had been calculated into their overtime pay table. This has happened because companies with vision created business plans that included a model where every employee benefits when the company succeeds.

We should exercise the same vision and pass this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on this legislation.

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#### IN TRIBUTE TO DAVID MERRICK

### HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 3, 2000*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of David Merrick, a legendary Broadway producer who passed away last Tuesday at the age of 88. The Broadway theater community, which I represent, owes a great debt to the talents of David Merrick. Merrick was responsible for bringing to audiences such great works as *Gypsy*, *Hello Dolly*, *42nd Street*, and *Oliver!*, as well as dozens of other productions. His living legacy is proven every time one of his masterpieces returns to the "Great White Way."

Born to a poor family in St. Louis, Merrick grew up to become a major force in the Broadway theater. Producing a half-dozen or more plays and musicals in a typical season, it was estimated that at times he employed up to 20 percent of Broadway's workforce, while his shows amassed countless Tony Awards for excellence in the theater.

Feared as well as respected by those in the industry, he had a flair for showmanship and publicity that set him apart, stopping at nothing to gain recognition for his plays.

David Merrick could be ruthless, tyrannical, even downright nasty, and he reveled in his reputation as "the abominable showman," but he loved the Broadway theater and he spent his life bringing to the stage works that moved us and entertained us.

Today, the lights on Broadway shine a little less brightly with the passing of this great showman.

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#### LETTER CARRIERS PARTICIPATE IN FOOD DRIVE FOR NATION'S NEEDY

### HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 3, 2000*

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, today I commend the National Association of Letter Carriers for their outstanding efforts to help those who are hungry in communities across the nation. On May 13, 2000, local branches of the Letter Carriers, along with the United Way and

#### EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

the United States Postal Service, will kick off their annual food drive to collect non-perishable food and other essential items for families in need.

Residents of Amarillo, Canyon, Hereford, Dumas and Tulia, Texas will be asked to place non-perishable food items, paper products or hygiene items by their mailboxes. The letter carriers will pick these items up on May 13th and deliver them to the High Plains Food Bank. The donations received through this food drive will help fill the need for food distribution throughout the summer months.

This food drive is a worthwhile and important project, and has been extremely helpful to a large number of families over the years. In fact, 83,000 pounds of food were collected last year from postal routes across the Panhandle and sent to the High Plains Food Bank, currently serving over 5,200 families each month. The goal this year is to raise over 90,000 pounds of food. I am confident that our community will rise to meet this challenge.

The Amarillo branch of the National Association of Letter Carriers is deserving of our full support and I praise them for their work in the fight against hunger. Together, with such individual acts of generosity, we can help stop the growing problem of hunger on the High Plains.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 3, 2000*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained today, May 3, 2000.

If I had been present for rollcall No. 133, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 134, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 135, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 136, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 137, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 138, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 139, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 140, I would have voted "yes."

If I had been present for rollcall No. 141, I would have voted "yes."

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#### WILKES-BARRE LAW AND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION 150TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 3, 2000*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an organization of which I am proud to be a member, the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association. I am pleased and honored to have been asked to participate in the 150th anniversary of its founding.

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Founded in 1850 by the leading attorneys of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, the Association was first known as the Wilkes-Barre Law Association. As the bar association for all of Luzerne County, the association soon adopted the longer name of Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association, which is how it is still known today.

Its original function was a law library for its membership. Because of the expense of older law books dating back to the Civil War era, it was an attempt to create a central law library as a less costly way for lawyers of the day to have an important resource in their practices. The original library contained around 2000 volumes. Throughout the years, the library has expanded and by 1968 contained over 21,000 volumes of law books including English law. Some of the oldest volumes date back to the early 1700's and the library is one of the finest in the nation to this day.

The membership of the Association currently includes 649 members and has had a total of over 1,600 members in good standing in its 150-year history. Its first president was the Honorable Hendrick B. Wright, a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature, and Andrew McClintock and George B. Nicholson served as the first treasurer and secretary, respectively.

Many of the original names on the membership list are quite familiar to those of us in the Wyoming Valley—Welles, Dennison, Bidlack, Conyngham, Wright—as even to this day many of our streets and communities bear these distinguished names. Many served in the Pennsylvania Legislature and were icons of the era. At least 14 members of the Association were elected to the U.S. Congress, myself included. The Association also boasts three governors among its ranks: Henry Hoyt, Arthur James, and John S. Fine.

Mr. Speaker, the list of appellate and state supreme court justices from this bar association's membership list is too long to name all of them here, but that list includes some of the most distinguished jurists in the Commonwealth's history. One of its most famous was Chief Justice Gibson, whose case precedents were considered the most widely read in his era and were cited regularly by courts as far away as Westminster, England.

Currently in senior status, Third Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Max Rosenn is a highly respected member of the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association. With my strong support, the Congress recently renamed the Wilkes-Barre Federal Courthouse in his honor.

Mr. Speaker, the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association is the oldest and most distinguished legal institution in Northeastern Pennsylvania. It is the center of the legal community in Luzerne County and its library is a great resource to its membership. I am extremely proud to be a member and to have this opportunity to bring its history to the attention of my colleagues in the House of Representatives. I send my sincere best wishes on this milestone anniversary and for the future of the legal profession in Luzerne County.